

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1901 - SB 1899

March 7, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Specifies that health status includes a screening for chemical dependency, mental illness, and serious emotional disturbance for inmate physician examinations upon reception and any time determined necessary thereafter.

Requires the DOC to establish policies and programs to provide appropriate learning disability intervention services.

Requires the Department of Correction (DOC) to contract with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS) or the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD) to ensure that psychological services are available at an adequate level and quality for all inmates who are in DOC custody and who are in need of service but do not qualify for a transfer from DOC.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – A shift in budgeted funds of an unknown amount from DOC to DMHSAS or DIDD to provide required services.

Assumptions:

- Based on information provided by the DOC, the proposed legislation would codify current practices in use for the identification and remediation of an inmate's cognitive or behavioral deficits. Any impact to DOC resulting from this specification is estimated to be not significant.
- The proposed legislation may lead to changes in policies and program to address identified learning disabilities; however, any fiscal impact to DOC resulting from such changes is estimated to be not significant.
- DOC currently contracts with third party vendors to provide psychological services.
- The proposed legislation will result in a shift in budgeted funds in an unknown amount from DOC to DMHSAS or DIDD to provide necessary services.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The script is cursive and fluid.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/amj